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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No: Q80436

Kenji TSUKADA, *et al.*

Appln. No.: 10/798,409

Group Art Unit: 2856

Confirmation No.: 5988

Examiner: Rose Mary Miller

Filed: March 12, 2004

For: DETECTOR OF LIQUID CONSUMPTION CONDITION

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith, except for the following: U.S. patents and/or U.S. patent publications; and co-pending non-provisional U.S. applications filed after June 30, 2003.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (without a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)) after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 10/798,409

Atty. Docket No. Q80436

Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is attached.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith copies of Communications from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of at least that portion of the Communication indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign patent office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: December 13, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

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of

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Application Number	10/798,409
Confirmation Number	5988
Filing Date	March 12, 2004
First Named Inventor	TSUKADA, Kenji
Art Unit	2856
Examiner Name	Rose Mary Miller
Attorney Docket Number	Q80436

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 3,394,589		07/30/1968	Tomioka
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	07-137291		05/30/1995	Mikinobu	Abstract
		EP	0 881 079	A2	12/02/1998	Hough	Yes
		JP	56-061421		10-17-1979	Matsushita Electric Industrial Co., Ltd.	Claims
		JP	09-029989	A	02-04-1997	Canon, Inc.	Yes
		JP	05-254142	A	10-05-1993	Tokyo Electric, Co. Ltd.	Yes
		EP	0 885 731	A2	12/23/1998	Kanome	Yes
		EP	0 860 284	A2	8/26/1998	Watanabe et al.	Yes
		WO	99/42293	A1	8/26/1999	Hu et al.	Yes
		CN	1274645	A	11/29/2000	Kanatani et al.	Abstract
		JP	58-205820	A	11/30/1983	Takeushi et al.	Abstract
		JP	10-305590	A	11/17/1998	Kurihara et al.	Abstract
		WO	98/09139	A1	03/05/1998	Anderson	Yes
		JP	62-95225	A	05/01/1987	Hasegawa et al.	Yes
		FR	2 572 519	A1	05/02/1986	Reymond et al.	Abstract
		JP	2000-43287	A	02/15/2000	Kazuhisa	Abstract
		JP	56-39413	A	04/15/1981		Abstract
		JP	10-323997		12/08/1998	Fumiyuki	Abstract
		JP	11-010909		01/19/1999	Nakano et al.	Abstract
		JP	11-277760		10/12/1999	Kato	Abstract
		JP	11-334107		12/07/1999	Nakamuara et al.	Abstract
		JP	04-234670		08/24/1992	Mochizuki et al.	Abstract
		JP	05-318757		12/03/1993	Sekiya et al.	Abstract
		JP	62-184856		08/13/1987		Abstract
		JP	09039263		02/10/1997	Sanada et al.	Abstract
		JP	09-220216		08/26/1997	Yamada et al.	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

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				Examiner Name	Rose Mary Miller
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		US			
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		US			
		US			
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		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
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		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		EP	0 803 365	B1	07/18/2001	Betschon	Yes
		EP	0 956 964	A2	11/17/1999	Kanaya et al.	Yes
		JP	08-034123		02/06/1996	Hiwada et al.	Abstract
		JP	02-034353		02/05/1990	Karita et al.	Abstract
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		JP	11-020162		01/26/1999	Morita et al.	Abstract
		JP	11-020186		01/26/1999	Usui et al.	Abstract
		JP	56-061421		05/26/1981	Naka et al.	Abstract
		JP	59-052422		03/27/1984	Kawakami	Abstract
		JP	64-067530		03/14/1989	Saio	Abstract
		JP	05-025325		02/02/1993	Yamada et al.	Abstract
		JP	56-039414		04/15/1981	Oota	Abstract
		JP	56-053078		05/12/1981	Yamazaki	Abstract
		JP	58-201027		11/22/1983	Murata et al.	Abstract
		JP	11-048490		2/23/1999	Sato	Abstract
		JP	03-036037		2/15/1991	Yasuhara	Abstract
		JP	03-211907		09/17/1991	Toyama	Abstract
		JP	06-155762		06/03/1994	Fujisawa	Abstract
		JP	09-020013		01/21/1997	Goto	Abstract

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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

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